

on a preponderance of evidence and to accord deference to States' own findings when such an event happens. It will also require the EPA to renew a State's exceptional event documentation within 90 days instead of dragging this process out, and to decide which States with exceptional events will be evaluated.

I am also introducing two other bills: the ORDEAL Act and the Agency PAYGO for Greenhouse Gases Act.

Much credit goes to the EPA for successfully reducing air pollution in the past few decades. This has led to benefits for everyone. But one of the most common pollutants—ozone, dealt with by the ORDEAL Act—has presented a nearly endless supply of redtape for States and municipalities for literally decades. When the EPA reduced its permitted ozone standards in 2008, counties across the country that were in "nonattainment" status were forced to enact expensive and complicated compliance plans.

With scant scientific health bases, the EPA wants to further lower ozone emissions standards. But there are already 221 counties in 27 States that are noncompliant with the present standards. How will lowering these standards even further help these States, communities, and counties comply? Is this EPA's version of double-secret probation?

By some estimates this lowering of ozone standards from 75 parts per billion to 60 parts per billion will cost a whopping \$1 trillion per year from 2020 to 2030. The EPA's own estimate said the proposed standard will cost \$25 billion per year at 70 ppb to \$90 billion per year at 60 ppb. It will cost as many as 7.3 million jobs.

The rationale for further reduction in ozone standards is the potential health

benefits. The EPA consistently fails to meet its 5-year intervals for ozone, which results in lawsuits, bad policy, and poor analysis when the agency is forced by the courts to produce a new standard. My bill, the ORDEAL Act, would provide the EPA more flexibility by doubling the statutory review interval to 10 years. It would also push off any decision on EPA's proposal to tighten the ozone standards until 2018, putting that standard on a more realistic 10-year cycle. This will give businesses more certainty. It will give them a more certain regulatory environment, not a possible change every 5 years. If you can imagine how to plan on a 5-year cycle for standards that are rarely met and have to be adjusted again. It will also give State air quality agencies the time they need to implement their own plans.

Finally, this administration has set its sights on reducing carbon emissions with the most recent attempt being draconian regulations on existing powerplants, despite inevitable job losses and spikes in energy costs.

The Agency PAYGO Act I am introducing would simply give the EPA a taste of its own medicine by requiring the agency to offset the cost of any greenhouse gas rules to an equivalent reduction in agency spending.

If the agency proceeds without offsetting these costs from its own budget, the final greenhouse gas rule must be approved by Congress. This bill specifically forbids the EPA from denying costs to Federal agencies by passing costs on to the Federal agency's ratepayers. If capital costs are imposed by the greenhouse gas rule, the EPA must offset those costs or get Congress's approval.

Specifically this bill will not let underlying agencies—including power

generating agencies such as the Western Power Authority—pass along these costs to consumers.

The modern EPA has a history of implementing increasingly costly and stringent standards for negligible or even questionable benefit. All three of these bills, the CLEER Act, the ORDEAL Act, and the Agency PAYGO Act, provide more certainty than presently exist to States and businesses that have to deal with the EPA and will hold the agency accountable for its decision-making process.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting these commonsense measures.

With that, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

There upon, the Senate, at 7:07 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 24, 2014, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

CAROLYN WATTS COLVIN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2019, VICE MICHAEL J. ASTRUE, RESIGNED.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be admiral

ADM. WILLIAM E. GORTNEY